Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection in the Netherlands



HIV Monitoring Report



Summary

HIV in the Netherlands

On December 31, 2022 there were an estimated 24,400 people with HIV in the Netherlands, of whom 21,987 were in care.

21 0 97	+1 200	Of the 21,987 people with HIV in care, there were:			
21,987 people with HIV in care	±1,390 estimated number of people not aware that they are living with HIV	13,621 62% men who have sex with men	3,974 18% other men	4,120 19% women	272 1% trans people

Age This figure shows the age distribution of people with HIV in care.



Route of transmission

This figure shows the most likely route of transmission, as self-reported by people with HIV in care.



Percentages may not always add up to 100 due to rounding.

Regional distribution of people with HIV in the Netherlands based on home address

	Estimated number of people with HIV	Estimated number of people with HIV, without a diagnosis
Region*		
Noord	1,510	150
Oost	2,750	130
Noord-Holland/Flevoland	9,190	260
Utrecht	1,400	60
Zuid-Holland Noord	1,890	170
Zuid-Holland Zuid	3,910	260
Zeeland/Brabant	2,690	200
Limburg	1,090	70
Total	24,420	1,300
City		
Amsterdam	6,380	140
Rotterdam	2,130	110
Den Haag	1,340	110
Utrecht	570	20
Total	10,420	370

Region of origin of people with HIV in care in the Netherlands

	Number	Percentage
The Netherlands	12,280	56
Sub-Saharan Africa	2,733	12
Western Europe	1,112	5
Central Europe	754	3
Eastern Europe and Central Asia	534	2
South America	1,776	8
Caribbean	999	5
South and southeast Asia	842	4
Other	838	4
Unknown	119	1
Total	21,987	100

* This reflects the regional distribution of centres for Additional Sexual Healthcare (centra voor Aanvullende Seksuele Gezondheid, ASG).

HIV diagnoses and estimated number of HIV infections over time



A new HIV infection is not the same as a confirmed HIV diagnosis. In practice, it is common for several years to elapse between the moment of HIV infection and an HIV diagnosis. The number of HIV infections over time is an estimate based on a mathematical model which takes into account information on the number of new HIV diagnoses as well as the disease stage at the time of diagnosis. These are then reported as 'estimated number of infections.'

New HIV diagnoses in 2022



* The number of people with an HIV diagnosis known to SHM.

In 2022 86% of the 454 people who arrived in the Netherlands with a known HIV diagnosis from abroad had a suppressed viral load at the time of their first medical check-up in the Netherlands.

Region of origin of people arriving in the Netherlands in 2022 with a documented HIV diagnosis from abroad



HIV treatment

Medication use in 2022



15% of people with HIV are treated with **two instead of three** active substances.

382 (2%) people with HIV use long-acting injectable medication.

11,083 (53%) of people with HIV who take prescribed HIV medicines use a combination that is entirely or partially generic. A generic medicine is a drug whose patent has expired, which allows other manufacturers to produce an identical version with the same active ingredients. This keeps the price of medicines down.

Start of first-line treatment

In 2022, 53% of people with HIV started taking medication within three weeks of their diagnosis. In 2013 that figure was 13%. In 2022, 71% of people with HIV started taking medication within two weeks of their first consultation at a treatment centre. In 2013 that figure was 20%.

Deceased

In 2022, 21 people died as a result of an advanced HIV infection (AIDS).

Continuum of HIV care

This figure shows the continuum of HIV care in the Netherlands on December 31, 2022.



HIV treatment is aimed at suppressing multiplication of the virus. This allows a person's health to restore and ensures HIV can no longer be transmitted to others. In this way, HIV treatment not only benefits an individual's health, it also prevents the further spread of HIV.

Late-stage HIV diagnoses

This figure shows the percentage of people with a late-stage diagnosis^{*} between 2020 and 2022, according to age and population group.



48% of all new HIV diagnoses between 2020 and 2022 were **late-stage HIV diagnoses***.

The number of people with a late-stage diagnosis increases with age.

As a percentage, **most late-stage diagnoses** across almost every age group are found among **other men and women**.

In total, 575 people received a late-stage HIV diagnosis between 2020 and 2022. Of these, 206 (36%) were admitted to hospital within a year of diagnosis as a direct result of their HIV infection. 16 (3%) of the 575 people with a late-stage diagnosis died.

* A late diagnosis is defined as a CD4 cell count below 350 cells/mm³, and/or a simultaneous AIDS diagnosis, where the HIV test does not indicate a recent HIV infection.

Knowledge about and use of PrEP by people with HIV

106 people with HIV who entered care and were diagnosed between 2018 and 2022 are known to have used PrEP in the past.



588 newly diagnosed men who have sex with men, or trans people (who entered care between 2018 and 2022), are known not to have used PrEP in the past. The real figure could be higher because this information is missing for 56% of all people with a new HIV diagnosis.



Pregnancy and breastfeeding

From 2016 to 2022, 529 women with one or more registered pregnancies were in care. A total of 500 pregnancies lasted at least 24 weeks and resulted in the birth of a baby.



Pregnancy duration	Number
≥37 weeks	435
32-37 weeks	51
24-32 weeks	13
Unknown	1

Method of delivery for a pregnancy of at least 24 weeks duration	Number
Vaginal	347
Caesarean (planned)	70
Caesarean (unplanned)	80
Unknown	3

Among pregnancies of women with HIV who delivered between 2016 and 2022, breastfeeding was self-reported in 28 pregnancies. All women had an undetectable viral load. No HIV transmission was reported.

As a result of screening **during pregnancy and proper treatment**, the transmission of HIV during pregnancy among women with HIV in care in the Netherlands is very low: **<0.5%** between 2016 and 2022.

Social, economic and demographic factors

For 2023 SHM has introduced a new element in the Monitoring Report. A number of analyses used microdata from Statistics Netherlands (Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, CBS) for the very first time. The figures below show the results of these analyses using combined SHM and CBS data. All data on individuals who gave permission for their data to be shared with SHM were combined with CBS data according to date of birth, sex and the four numbers of their postcode. This linkage was successful for 94% of people known to SHM.

Socio-demographic and socio-economic comparison between people with HIV in care (HIV diagnosis between 2015 and 2021) and the general population



* Migration background is determined according to an individual's country of birth and their parents' country of birth.

** Income based on total household income.

Continuum of HIV care for men who have sex with men, based on migration background and income



For men who have sex with men there is a correlation between the level of income and the chance of successfully suppressing the virus: the lower the income, the lower the percentage of people with an undetectable viral load after starting treatment.

HIV treatment centres

There are 24 treatment centres for people with HIV in the Netherlands.

- 1 Noordwest Ziekenhuisgroep, Alkmaar
- 2 Flevoziekenhuis, Almere
- 3 Amsterdam Universitair Medische Centra, locatie AMC, Amsterdam
- 4 Amsterdam Universitair Medische Centra, locatie VUmc, Amsterdam
- 5 DC Klinieken Lairesse, Amsterdam
- 6 OLVG, Amsterdam
- 7 Medisch Centrum Jan van Goyen, Amsterdam
- 8 Rijnstate, Arnhem
- 9 HagaZiekenhuis, locatie Leyweg, Den Haag
- 🔟 Haaglanden Medisch Centrum, Den Haag
- 🔟 Catharina Ziekenhuis, Eindhoven
- 12 Medisch Spectrum Twente (MST), Enschede
- 13 Adrz (Admiraal De Ruyter Ziekenhuis), Goes
- Universitair Medisch Centrum Groningen (UMCG), Groningen
- 🕑 Spaarne Gasthuis, Haarlem
- 🔞 Medisch Centrum Leeuwarden (MCL), Leeuwarden
- Deids Universitair Medisch Centrum (LUMC), Leiden
- 18 Maastricht UMC+ (MUMC+), Maastricht
- 19 Radboudumc, Nijmegen
- 20 Erasmus MC, Rotterdam
- 21 Maasstad Ziekenhuis, Rotterdam
- 22 ETZ (Elisabeth-TweeSteden Ziekenhuis), Tilburg
- Oniversitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht (UMC Utrecht), Utrecht
- 24 Isala, Zwolle

In addition, there are four centres for paediatric HIV care:

- A Emma Kinderziekenhuis (EKZ), Amsterdam UMC, locatie AMC, Amsterdam
- B Beatrix Kinderziekenhuis (BKZ), UMCG, Groningen
- C Erasmus MC Sophia Kinderziekenhuis, Rotterdam
- D Wilhelmina Kinderziekenhuis (WKZ), UMC, Utrecht

About stichting hiv monitoring

Stichting hiv monitoring (SHM) collects medical data of people with HIV, of course only with their explicit consent. These data are used for research that contributes to knowledge about HIV in the Netherlands.

Data in this publication are taken from the *HIV Monitoring Report* 2023. The report covers the latest developments and trends within the population of people with HIV in the Netherlands. The report is published annually and always reports on data collected up to and including the previous year.

